

CONFIDENTIAL

31 March 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Contact by Mr. Victor Marchetti

1. On 23 March Victor Marchetti called me at home, which is the first contact I've had with him since he left the Agency.

2. Marchetti stated that he had just read the Epstein book and found the reference to me very unflattering and almost libelous. He said he thought that I must be upset by this book. I told him that it was the first time my name had been identified with the Agency in print but that I had not reacted quite as strongly as he had. He asked if I intended to do anything about it and I said no.

3. He said that he had been talking to Colby and Hyland and that he would be testifying before the Senate Select Committee on 24 March. He said he had told Colby that two different persons reported Colby to be under investigation as possibly being a Soviet agent. He asked if I had heard these stories and I said I had not and considered them ridiculous.

4. I told Marchetti that it was disturbing to see his name linked with certain disaffected former CIA employees as I really felt that his motives were more positive toward the Agency. He asked whom I meant and mentioned Agee and [redacted] He said he had only met Agee because when he was in London he had been invited by friends to go with them to a party at Agee's house. However, he said he wanted to be known as a hostile critic of CIA and that he had been insulted when he was referred to in the media as one of the more responsible critics of the Agency.

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25X1 5. He said that the one person who felt secure enough to visit him was [] When [] was in the National Security Council he visited Marchetti at home and discussed the intelligence community, its problems and possible remedies. Marchetti said that if I had the "guts" he would be happy to have me come visit him too. I told him that while he was working so hard outside the Agency to improve it that there was also useful work that could be done inside the Agency and that it was probably best for us to continue our efforts independently.

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cc: C/CI
OLC
OGC